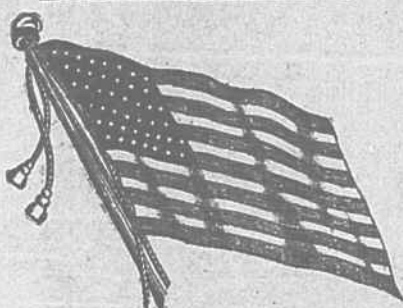


NOTHING LEFT OF CERVERA'S SHIPS

That Sailed out of Santiago Harbor in a Gallant Dash for Liberty.

THEY WENT DOWN, LIKE MR. MCGINTY

To the Bottom of the Sea, to Rise no More Forever--The Spanish Admiral Proved to be a Valorous Foe and American Chivalry was Quick to Extend a Gracious Hand to the Conquered--Not a Vessel of Sampson's Squadron was Injured, and only One Man was Killed and Two Wounded--Loss of Life on the Spanish Side was Heavy--Admiral Cervera Among the Wounded--Sixteen Hundred Spanish Officers and Sailors Captured--The Frightful Carnage Caused by the Shells of the American Warships.



WASHINGTON, D. C., July 4.--At 11:25 to-night the navy department posted the translation of a cipher cablegram received from Commodore Watson. It is similar to that received to-day from Admiral Sampson, but contains the additional information that 350 Spaniards were killed or drowned, 160 wounded and 1,000 captured.

The annihilation of Admiral Cervera's fleet is a terrific blow to Spain, as this fleet was far more formidable than that wiped out by Admiral Dewey at Manila, and was the strongest flotilla of ships Spain had afloat. The total number of men, officers and crews, was 2,083 on the seven boats.

(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.) TEN MILES WEST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE HARBOR OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Sunday, July 4, 4 p. m., by the Associated Press Dispatch Boat Wanda, to PORT ANTONIO, Jamaica, Monday Morning, July 4, via KINGSTON, Jamaica, July 4, 4:45 p. m.--Admiral Cervera's fleet, consisting of the armored cruisers Cristobal Colon, Almirante Oquendo, Infanta Maria Teresa and Vizcaya and two torpedo boat destroyers, the Furor and the Pluton, which had been held in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba for six weeks past by the combined squadrons of Rear Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley lies to-day at the bottom of the Caribbean sea, off the southern coast of Cuba.

The Spanish admiral is a prisoner of war on the auxiliary gunboat Gloucester (formerly Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan's yacht Corsair), and 1,000 to 1,500 other Spanish officers and sailors, all of whom escaped the frightful carnage caused by the shells from the American warships, are also held as prisoners of war by the United States navy.

The Spaniards, when they found they would be permitted to live, adapted themselves comfortably to the situation, rolled their cigarettes, and began playing cards among themselves.

CERVERA'S BOLD DASH

Out of the Harbor of Santiago--One of the Plankiest Dashes in Naval History--How the Spanish Fleet was Annihilated.

The American victory is complete and according to the best information obtainable at this time the American vessels were practically untouched and only one man was killed, though the ships were subjected to the heavy fire of the Spaniards all the time the battle lasted.

Admiral Cervera made as gallant dash for liberty and for the preservation of his ships this morning as has ever occurred in the history of naval warfare.

In the face of overwhelming odds, with nothing before him but inevitable destruction or surrender if he remained any longer in the trap in which the American fleet held him, he made a bold dash from the harbor at the time the Americans least expected him to do so, and fighting every inch of his way, even when his ships were ablaze and sinking, he tried to escape the doom which was written on the muzzle of every American gun trained upon his vessels.

The Americans saw him the moment he left the harbor and commenced their work of destruction immediately. For an hour or two they followed the flying Spaniards to the westward along the shore line, sending shot after shot into their blazing hulls, tearing great holes in their steel sides and covering their decks with the blood of the killed and wounded.

Fought to the Last.

At no time did the Spaniards show any indication that they intended to do otherwise than fight to the last. They showed no signals to surrender even when their ships commenced to sink and the great clouds of smoke pouring from their sides showed they were on fire. But they turned their heads toward the shore, less than a mile away, and ran them on the beach and rocks where their destruction was soon completed. The officers and men on board then escaped to the shore, as well as could be with the assistance of boats sent from the American men-of-war, and then threw themselves upon the mercy of their captors, who not only extended to them the gracious hand of

American chivalry, but sent them a guard to protect them from the murderous bands of Cuban soldiers hiding in the bush on the hillside eager to rush down and attack the unarmed, defeated, but valorous foe.

One or another of the Spanish ships became the victims of the awful rain of shells which the American battleships, cruisers and gunboats, poured into them and two hours after the first of the fleet had started out of Santiago harbor, three cruisers and two torpedo boat destroyers were lying on the shore ten to fifteen miles west of Morro Castle, surrounded by pieces, smoke and flame pouring from every part of them and covering the entire coast line with a mist which could be seen for miles.

Heavy explosions of ammunition occurred every few minutes, sending curls of dense white smoke a hundred feet in the air and causing a shower of broken iron and steel to fall in the water on every side.

The bluffs on the coast line, echoed with the roar of every explosion and the Spanish vessels sank deeper and deeper into the sand or else the rocks around their hulls to pieces as they rolled or pitched forward or sideways, with every wave that washed upon them from the open sea.

Cervera Surrenders.

Admiral Cervera escaped to the shore in a boat sent by the Gloucester to the assistance of the Infanta Maria Teresa and as soon as he touched the beach he surrendered himself and his command to Lieutenant Morton and asked to be taken on board the Gloucester, which was the only American vessel near him at the time, with several of his officers, including the captain of the flagship, the Spanish Admiral who was wounded in the arm, was taken to the Gloucester and was received at her gangway by her commander, Lieutenant Commander Richard Walnwright, who grasped the hand of the gray-bearded admiral and said to him:

"Congratulations you, sir, upon having made as gallant a fight as was ever witnessed on the sea."

Lieutenant Commander Walnwright then placed his cabin at the disposal of the Spanish officers.

At that time the Spanish flagship and four other Spanish vessels, the Infanta Maria Teresa, the Vizcaya, the Furor and the Pluton, were burning in the harbor and the only one of the escaping fleet which could not be seen at this point was the Cristobal Colon. But half a dozen curls of smoke far down on the western horizon showed the fate that was awaiting her.

The Cristobal Colon was the fastest of the Spanish ships and she soon obtained a lead over the others after leaving a harbor and escaped the effect of the shots which destroyed the other vessels. She steamed away at great speed with the Oregon, New York, Brooklyn and several other ships in hot pursuit, all of them firing at her constantly and receiving fire themselves from her after guns. There seemed no possibility whatever for her escape, and while her fate is not definitely known at this hour, it can be readily imagined from the words of Captain Robley D. Evans, of the Iowa, who returned from the westward with 340 prisoners from the Vizcaya just as the Associated Press dispatch boat Wanda was leaving the Spanish flagship.

Evans' Lascion Answer.

In answer to an inquiry, he shouted through the megaphone:

"I left the Cristobal Colon far to the westward an hour ago and the Oregon was giving her hell. She has undoubtedly gone down with the others and we will have a Fourth of July celebration in Santiago to-morrow."

Captain Evans, who had been in the thick of the engagement up to the time he took the Vizcaya's officers and crew from the shore, said that to the best of his knowledge not one American ship had been struck.

The torpedo boat Ericsson, which also returned from the westward at about the same time, made a similar report, saying it was believed no man was injured on board the American ships, though another report had it that one man was killed on board the Brooklyn, which could not be verified as this dispatch was sent.

There can be no doubt that Admiral Cervera's plan to escape from Santiago harbor was entirely unexpected by Admiral Sampson, and the best evidence of this is the fact that when the Spanish vessels were seen coming out of the harbor the flagship New York was eastward toward Juragua, the military base, nine miles east of Morro.

EXTRA

G. A. M.

achuetta, Indiana, Texas Gloucester and other ships of the fleet.

A Coincidence.

Commodore Schley's flagship, the Brooklyn, had her usual position at the extreme western end of the line, ten miles from the New York, and Texas. It is a peculiar fact that he should have been in proper position to direct the movement of his flying squadron against the Spanish fleet, which he had bottled up in Santiago harbor six weeks before.

In a matter of fact, the entire American fleet was much further off shore than usual when the Spaniards made their appearance this morning.

With the exception of the bombardment yesterday morning which resulted in knocking down the flag on Morro Castle and the supposed silencing of the batteries which opened fire again this morning as usual, the navy had done little recently to attract interest here, and the officers and crews themselves were watching the developments of the operations being conducted by the army. It was not believed that Admiral Cervera would attempt to escape from his perilous position at this late day, but it was supposed that he would keep his ships in the harbor to shell the advancing American army and that if Santiago fell he would blow up or sink them before permitting them to be captured by the fleet lying off the coast.

The Spanish admiral's real plans, however, were plainly not anticipated. He accepted the one chance open to him--that of running the gauntlet of the powerful men-of-war lying in front of the harbor.

Took the Only Chance.

There seemed to be but one chance in a hundred that he would be able to make the move successfully, but he took that chance and while great piles of naval architecture now ground to pieces on the rocks a few miles from where he started, tell the mournful story of his failure, there are none who applaud his conduct more than the American officers and seamen who sent his ships to destruction.

It was about 9 o'clock this morning when the flagship Infanta Maria Teresa passed under the wall of Morro Castle and steamed out to sea. She was followed by the Cristobal Colon, Vizcaya and Oquendo and last by the torpedo boat destroyers Furor and Pluton. The lookout on the American vessels which were lying five or ten miles off the entrance to the harbor sighted them immediately, but the American cruisers were at the usual Sunday morning quarters without a thought of anything as surprising as the Spanish fleet getting past the sunken collier Merrimac, which they had been deluded into believing effectually blocked the exit.

There was great excitement at once, and very rapid action along the American line. The signal for full speed was running from bridge to engine room of every ship and the entire fleet commenced to move in shore toward the Spanish and the great twelve and thirteen-inch guns of the battleships and the smaller batteries and the other vessels fired shot after shot at long range.

As the ships ran in towards the shore it soon became evident that the Spaniards had not come out to make an aggressive fight, for they turned to the eastward as soon as they had cleared the harbor and started on their race for safety, at the same time sending answering shots at the American ships as fast as the muzzles could load and fire the guns. The Brooklyn, Massachusetts, Texas, Oregon and Iowa were nearer the Spaniards than any other of the American vessels, but still most of them were too far away to get an effective range. They crowded on all steam, however, in preparation for the chase, never stopping their fire one moment.

The Plucky Gloucester.

The Gloucester, a fast little yacht that cannot boast of any heavier battery than several six pounders and three pom-poms, was lying off Aguadores, three miles east of Morro when the Spaniards came out. At first she joined in the attack upon a large vessel and then held off some, Captain Walnwright concluding to reserve his efforts for the two torpedo boat destroyers in the rear. The Gloucester steamed after them when they appeared and chased them to a point five miles west of Morro, not her with shot into them all the time. Her efforts bore abundant fruit, for she belongs the credit for the destruction of both of the destroyers. She fired 1,400 shots during the chase and it was not long before both destroyers were on fire and plainly disabled.

Notwithstanding this they both returned the Gloucester's fire and a rain of small shells fell around the yacht. The Furor evidently determined that she would not stand the fire any longer and she put about and headed back for Santiago. Then the Gloucester simply smothered her with shot from her rapid fire guns and running like the wind, forced her to turn around and again head westward.

Smoke commenced to rise from the Furor's sides and she put in towards the shore. Before she had gone far what was left of her crew abandoned her and took to the boats reaching the shore later. By that time she was a mass of flame and was drifting helplessly.

The Pluton was in the same distressed condition and was also headed for the shore, running up alongside of a low bluff where she soon ran aground and finally broke in two completely.

It was a most dangerous landing place for her crew and but about half of them reached the shore alive.

The officers and crews must have been aware of the fate which seemed to be before them, but it was not until the ships were on fire and enveloped in flames and smoke that the men ceased firing.

Beaten to Death on Rocks.

The Gloucester after sending a boat ashore to the Pluton steamed along the coast to where the armored cruisers were stranded and went to their assistance. There was danger from the magazines and many of those on board jumped into the water and swam to the shore, though a number were unable to reach the small strip of sandy beach in the cove, and were thrown against the rocks and killed or drowned.

Many of the wounded were lowered into the ship's own boats and taken ashore, but this task was a most difficult one.

The Gloucester had all her boats out and one seaman swam through the surf with a line from the Maria Teresa, making it fast to a tree on the shore. By this means many of the flagship, including Admiral Cervera, lowered themselves into the Gloucester's boats. The wounded were taken to the Gloucester as rapidly as possible, and the lower deck of the yacht was soon covered with Spanish sailors, mangled in limb and body by the bursting of shells.

The Gloucester's crew on shore, the wounded men every attention possible. The shore was soon lined with those who had escaped from the Infanta Maria Teresa and the Almirante Oquendo. There were still some men on both vessels when the fire commenced to reach the magazines and the boxes of ammunition lying on the decks. A dozen or more explosions followed.

SHAFTER'S DEMAND

For the Unconditional Surrender of Santiago de Cuba

MET WITH A CURT ANSWER.

The Only Notice General Linares Took of the Notification of a Bombardment was That no Cubans Would be Permitted to Leave the City--Pando Arrives with 5,000 Reinforcements--Garcia Refused to Make an Effort to Stop Him.

(Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.) OFF JURAGUA, ON BOARD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH BOAT DANDY, Sunday, July 3, 10 p. m., via PORT ANTONIO, Jamaica, and KINGSTON, July 4, 12:45 p. m.--General Shafter to-day demanded an instant and unconditional surrender of Santiago de Cuba.

The Spanish commander curtly and emphatically refused. The American general in sending his demand, warned all foreign residents out of the city before 10 o'clock to-morrow morning (July 4), at which hour the bombardment, he said, would begin.

The only notice General Linares took was that no Cubans would be permitted to leave to-morrow.

This evening Lieutenant Colonel Astor, of General Shafter's staff, was informed by a courier that the Spanish generals were considering terms of surrender. The courier's report, however, is altogether unconfirmed and is discredited by General Shafter.

To-night the men are anxious for a general engagement on the Fourth of July, but the officers do not expect it. The general belief is that the crushing of Admiral Cervera's fleet, entirely changes the situation, now that Admiral Sampson can enter the harbor and the army and navy can make a combined attack on the city. It is not believed that General Shafter will make a decisive move until that question is definitely settled.

Admiral Sampson and General Shafter had arranged for a conference this morning and an escort of cavalry was at the dock here awaiting Admiral Sampson and his staff. Admiral Cervera's dash for liberty compelled the New York to leave the harbor and rush to the scene of conflict. The conference was interrupted to wait out the Spanish fleet, but will doubtless be resumed. General Pando with five thousand reinforcements reached Santiago at noon to-day. General Calixto Garcia refusing to make an effort to stop him, saying that the Spanish force was too large for him to engage.

The army is half mad with delight over the crushing of the Spanish fleet.

ADMIRAL DEWEY

May be in Manila now, as He was Planning to Attack the City on July 4 when the Dispatch Boat Left July 1.

HONG KONG, July 4.--The United dispatch boat Zafiro, which arrived here early this morning from Cavite with the report that the American troops arrived on June 30, reports also that Admiral Dewey, when the Zafiro left on July 1, was planning to attack Manila with the fleet and troops on July 4.

In addition to the Spanish governor of the Ladrone, the Charleston brought fifty soldiers as prisoners of war to Cavite.

The gunboat Hugh McCulloch captured the Spanish gunboat Leyte. Admiral Dewey offered to parole the crew but they declined because they feared to be court-martialed and shot.

Captain Concha, late commander of the Spanish third class unprotected cruiser Don Antonio de Ulibo, which was sunk at the battle of Cavite, commands at Malate port with 400 sailors. A thousand mixed troops are camped about half a mile south. The insurgents apparently, the Zafiro reports, fear to leave cover.

Artachio, the insurgent leader who was arrested by Aguinaldo, will, the insurgents think, be shot, as Gen. Aguinaldo fears a conspiracy against himself.

HOW IS THIS?

The Spanish Version of Sampson's Solar Flare Blow.

MADRID, July 4--4 p. m.--The following semi-official statement was issued this afternoon:

"The semaphore from Morro Castle to Santiago says the Spanish squadron after a cannonade with the Americans showed no signs of injury, therefore the American news of the rout of Admiral Cervera must be utterly untrue. Moreover, Admiral Cervera's squadron is faster than Admiral Sampson's."

MADRID, July 4, (10 p. m.)--Thunder storms, very heavy and causing fatalities, have partially interrupted telegraph communication and only meagre news is published.

There are great rejoicings over Admiral Cervera's quitting the harbor of Santiago, but there is an undercurrent of great anxiety as to his fate. It is considered preferable that he should even succumb to Admiral Sampson's superior forces than remain to be sunk by General Shafter's artillery.

General Blanco cables as follows: "No details have been received as to the naval fight, but it is rumored that Admiral Cervera reached a port of Southern Cuba."

It is officially announced that the last vessel of Admiral Camara's squadron have passed the Suez canal.

CAMARA'S SQUADRON,

Including the Transports, Has Re-entered the Harbor of Port Said.

PORT SAID, July 4, (10 p. m.)--The whole of Admiral Camara's squadron has re-entered the harbor, including the transports. The Spanish torpedo boat destroyer Prosperina and the collier San Augustin have also arrived.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, fair weather; warmer; northerly winds, becoming variable.

For Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, fair weather; warmer; light northerly winds, becoming southerly.

Local Temperature.

The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Schnepf, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows:

7 a. m. 75 3 p. m. 83 7 p. m. 85 11 p. m. 82 12 m. 81 Weather--Changeable.

THRILLING RECORD

Made by American Arms--Nothing Like it was Known Since 1776

WHEN THE BELL OF INDEPENDENCE HALL

Chimed the Tidings of American Freedom--A Fourth of July that will Ever be Remembered with Pride by the Patriots of the United States--Sampson's Great Achievement Might Have been Followed by the Fall of Santiago if General Shafter Had not Humanely Given the Non-Combatants, Women and Children time to Leave the Doomed City--The Hour of Grace Expires at 10 O'clock this Morning When he will Bombard it.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 4.--The complete annihilation of the Spanish squadron at Santiago and the capture of the Spanish admiral, Cervera, with 1,500 prisoners; the demand by General Shafter for the surrender of Santiago by 12 o'clock to-morrow noon on pain of bombardment; word from Admiral Dewey that the Ladrone islands had been captured; that a Spanish gunboat had surrendered; that a hundred or more Spanish officers and men were taken and that our first Philippine expedition had landed--this is in part a thrilling record of such a Fourth of July as has not been known since the tidings of American freedom. It was a day when one momentous event followed another in constant and rapid succession, each hour bringing forth some new feature more startling than what had gone before. The climax came at 1 o'clock when amid the wildest cheering, which fairly shook the great war, and navy building to its foundation, Admiral Sampson's dispatch announced his glorious victory and the entire destruction of the Spanish fleet was given to the public.

The President had not a moment's respite. Telegrams came and went without cessation and the historic of man's action presented a scene such as has not been paralleled since the momentous hours of the civil war.

The story of the day is best told in the series of official dispatches, bearing date of July 4, from Sampson, from Shafter, from Dewey. Stirring as they all are, that of Sampson was accorded the honor of chief importance, not only for the immediate results secured, but also from the effects of this crushing defeat in weakening the defenses of the city of Santiago and in dealing Spain such a staggering blow that she is left practically without a navy.

Sampson's dispatch is as follows:

"PLAYA VIA HATTL.

To Secretary Navy--3:15 a. m.--Siboney, July 3rd.

"The fleet under my command offers the nation as a Fourth of July present the destruction of the whole of Cervera's fleet. Not one escaped. It attempted to escape at 9:30 a. m., and at 2 p. m., the last, the Cristobal Colon, had run ashore, sixty miles west of Santiago, and had left down her colors. The Infante Maria Teresa, Oquendo and Vizcaya were forced ashore, burned and blown up within twenty miles of Santiago. The Furor and Pluton were destroyed within four miles of the port. Loss, one killed and two wounded. Enemy's loss probably several hundred from gun fire, explosions and drowning. About 1,300 prisoners, including Admiral Cervera. The man killed was George H. Ellis, chief yeoman of the Brooklyn.

Although brief, Admiral Sampson's dispatch tells the story of fearful destruction. It not only disclosed the tremendous prowess of the American fleet, but it again displayed the strange immunity which the American sailor seems to have in the midst of death and carnage.

THAT BUT ONE OF OUR SAILORS, A YEOMAN ON THE BROOKLYN, SHOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED IN AN ENGAGEMENT OF THIS MAGNITUDE, IS WITHOUT A PARALLEL IN NAVY ANNALS, SAVE IN THAT OTHER UNPARALLELED RECORD WHICH DEWEY MADE AT MANILA.

With the Spanish fleet destroyed, the way was partly cleared for the advance of the American squadron into the harbor of Santiago. If Cervera's armored cruisers could cross the mine field and clear the Merrimac at the entrance to the harbor, the American ships can follow the same course. There are the inner fortifications and the forts still to be reduced, but they have passed through a baptism of fire recently and are little more than ruins. Thus with Shafter's guns thundering on Santiago from the land and Sampson's from the harbor, the fall of the city is assured beyond further question.

To authorities here, military and naval, say that Santiago has already made its best fight, and that its occupation is only a question of time, and very brief time.

General Shafter's strong position was shown in a series of dispatches. Most convincing of all was his feeling of confidence and strength was that dispatch given out late in the day, in which General Shafter gives the text of his demand for the surrender of the city on pain of bombardment.

Shafter's Ultimatum.

This dispatch is as follows:

PLAYA DEL ESTE, July 4, 1898.

Hon. R. A. Alger, Secretary of War, Washington.

Headquarters Fifth Army Corps, July 3.

The following is my demand for the surrender of the city of Santiago: Rear Admiral Sampson's United States forces, near San Juan River, Cuba, July 3, 1898, 8:30 a. m.

To the Commanding General of the Spanish forces, Santiago de Cuba.

SIR--I shall be obliged, unless you surrender, to shell Santiago de Cuba. Please inform the citizens of foreign countries and all women and children that they should leave the city before 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully your obedient servant.

(Signed.) W. R. SHAFTER.

Major General U. S. A.

Following is the Spanish reply which Colonel Dorst has just returned at 6:30 p. m.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, 2 p. m., July 3, 1898.

His excellency, the general commanding forces of the United States, San Juan River.

SIR--I have the honor to reply to your communication of to-day, written at 8:30 a. m., and received at 1 p. m., demanding the surrender of this city. On the contrary case announcing to me that you will bombard this city, and

that I advise the foreign women and children that they must leave the city before 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. It is my duty to say to you that this city will not surrender, and that I will inform the foreign consuls and inhabitants of the contents of your message.

Very respectfully,

(Signed.) JOSE TORAL,

Commander-in-Chief Fourth Corps.

The British, Portuguese, Chinese and Norwegian consuls have come to my line with Colonel Dorst. They ask if non-combatants can occupy the town of Caney and railroad points, and a meeting of the city is held before the city is fired on. They claim that there are between fifteen and twenty thousand people, many of them old, who will leave. They ask if I can supply them with food which I cannot do for want of transportation to Caney, which is fifteen miles from my landing. The following is my reply:

July 3, 1898.

The commanding general, Spanish forces, Santiago de Cuba.

SIR--In consideration of the request of the consuls and officers in your city for delay in carrying out my intention to fire on the city, and in the interest of the poor women and children who will suffer greatly by their hasty and enforced departure from the city, I have the honor to announce that, and such such of the city as interest up to the noon of the 5th, providing during the interval your forces make no demonstration whatever upon those of my own.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

(Signed.) W. R. SHAFTER.

Commanding Major General.

Master of the Situation.

Shafter's other dispatches breathe the same air of confidence and determination as shown in his demand on the Spanish commander. The first one made public during the day stated that his lines completely surrounded the town from the bay on the north to the north to the San Juan river on the south, leaving the city thus enveloped by a stretch of water on one side and a stretch of land on the other. In another dispatch General Shafter epitomized the strength of his position by saying:

"I feel that I am master of the situation and can hold the enemy for any length of time."

In another dispatch General Shafter states that in his demand on the Spanish commander, he still being considered by the Spanish authorities, which indicates that the refusal of the Spanish commander to capitulate was not final. In any event, 12 o'clock on Tuesday, marks the limit of Shafter's concession, and if Santiago has not capitulated by that hour, the American guns now brought to the front and in position, backed by the batteries of lighter field pieces, will begin their work of destruction.

The pressing need of reinforcing Shafter is no longer felt, now that the Spanish fleet is out of the way. A considerable number of men, however, are already on the way and others will follow.

The changed naval situation will bring no abatement in the activity of the authorities here in carrying the war directly home to Spain.

There is renewed determination to get Commodore Watson's eastern squadron away at the earliest moment for the double purpose of striking a blow at the coast towns of Spain and of pursuing Admiral Camara's fleet which has halted at the entrance of the Suez canal. Secretary Long made the official statement to-day that the fleet would sail at the earliest possible moment and although he did not go into details as to its purpose it is well understood that it will devote its attention to the Spanish coast and to Camara. The destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago relieves Admiral Sampson from surveillance of this squadron and he can readily spare the ships intended for the attack on the Spanish coast.

Will be Admiral in Fact.

It has been Acting Sampson for some time, but that it will be Admiral Sampson in fact as well as in name is the prevailing feeling in naval circles as a result of the victory reported by the American admiral. Shortly after the war broke out Captain Sampson was made acting admiral in order to give him a rank fitting his high command, although his natural naval rank remains at captain. By a singular coincidence his rank was advanced to-day to that of commodore, owing to the retirement of Admiral Kirkland. In the event of his now being made an admiral, it would advance him over the ten commodores making up the list of that grade and would place him just below that very famous hero of the war, Admiral Dewey.

It is of course purely conjectural thus far, but it is a conjecture which receives such common acceptance in naval quarters that it is most likely to be realized.

The release of Hobson and the other heroes of the Merrimac incident is likely to be another result of the events transpiring in to-day. It may now come about either by the surrender of the city which would include the surrender of Hobson and other American prisoners in the city or else by the exchange of Hobson for Admiral Cervera or some other high ranking naval official. Until to-day the possibility of exchanging prisoners was slight as this government had no Spanish prisoners of high rank to offer in his place. Now, however, they have one of the foremost admirals of Spain, and among the 1,300 other naval prisoners there are many officers of distinguished rank. To exchange a Spanish admiral for an American naval constructor might seem strange under ordinary circumstances, but it would be done without any begrudging by the authorities here and would be particularly appropriate in view of the action of Cervera at the time Hobson surrendered to him.

Oh, Has She?

SHANGHAI, July 4.--It is reported here on good authority that Germany has arranged a concession for a port in the Philippine Islands, antedating the present situation there.